

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In the case where two modes such as M and M_1 have about equal probability of being selected, laser 130 may lase by "mode hopping" from one mode to the other. This probability can be minimized by fine-adjusting the position of mirror 113 in the direction of arrows P (see FIG. 18) and correspondingly displacing curve A to a new position A_{Disp} (dotted curve in FIG. 20). By way of example, a mirror position adjustment of only about 15 nm would be necessary to provide the displacement of curve A to curve A_{Disp} . Mirror position adjustment may also be necessary to compensate for any drift of the mode frequencies due, for example, to temperature changes in resonator 132. Mirror position may also be adjusted to align a low loss period with the peak of the gain curve. In general, it is preferred that the period of frequency variation is less than the gain bandwidth of gain elements 32 and 33 but greater than the fundamental mode-frequency spacing of resonator 132.--